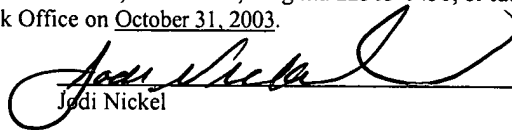


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Warren Starkebaum et al.	Group Art Unit:	Not assigned yet
Application No.:	Not assigned yet	Examiner:	Not assigned yet
Filed:	October 31, 2003	Due Date:	
For:	Ablation of Exterior of Stomach To Treat Obesity		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 31, 2003.


Jodi Nickel

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:


Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date. No certification or fee is required.

By submitting these references, Applicant does not admit that the references are prior art to or material to this application, and reserves the right to establish that any reference is not prior art. Applicant does not represent that the references have been reviewed in detail; there may be details in the references of which Applicant is unaware.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 31, 2003



Thomas F. Woods
Registration No. 36,726
MEDTRONIC, INC.
710 Medtronic Parkway NE, MS: LC340
Minneapolis, MN 55432-5604
Telephone: 763-505-0003
Facsimile: 763-505-0411
Customer No.: 27581

Form 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: P-11487.00	Application Number:
	Applicant: Warran L. Starkebaum, Thomas R. Prentice and Mark A. Christopherson	
	Filing Date:	Group Art Unit:
	Examiner Name:	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Issue/Document Publication Date	Name	Filing Date If Appropriate
	4,279,906	07/21/1981	Frosch et al.	
	4,869,902	09/26/1989	Buehler et al.	
	5,188,104	02/23/1993	Wernicke et al.	
	5,403,326	04/04/1995	Harrison et al.	
	5,423,872	06/13/1995	Cigaina	
	5,505,730	04/09/1996	Edwards	
	5,569,241	10/29/1996	Edwards	
	5,782,798	07/21/1998	Rise	
	5,827,273	10/27/1998	Edwards	
	6,159,146	12/12/2000	El Gazayerli	
	6,183,776	02/06/2001	Depui et al.	
	6,405,732	06/18/2002	Edwards et al.	
	6,425,877	07/30/2002	McGuckin et al.	
	6,427,082	07/30/2002	Nordstrom et al.	
	6,427,089	07/30/2002	Knowlton	
	20020183768	12/05/2002	Deem et al.	
	20030040804	02/27/2003	Stack et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Translation	
				Yes	No
	WO 00/69376	11/03/2000	PCT		
	WO 01/87335	11/22/2001	PCT		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Authors, Title of Item, Page(s), Vol/Issue No., Publisher, Place of Publication)

	"Stomach 'Pacemaker' May Suppress Appetite," story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=541&e=6&u=/ap/tummy_pacemaker

EXAMINER	Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.